

Serial No. 10/693,908
Amdt. dated March 17, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 17, 2005

Docket No. P-0606

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-6 and 8-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 2-6 and 8, 9 and 12 are amended, and claims 1 and 7 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 6, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Browning et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,409,564). However, claims 2-5 and 8-14 are objected to as being allowable and claims 15-20 are indicated as allowable. For the sole purpose of expediting the prosecution, rejected claims 1 and 7 are canceled and allowable dependent claims are rewritten in independent form with dependent claim 6 being amended to depend therefrom. Hence, claims 2-6 and 8-20 are now in condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the pending §102 rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

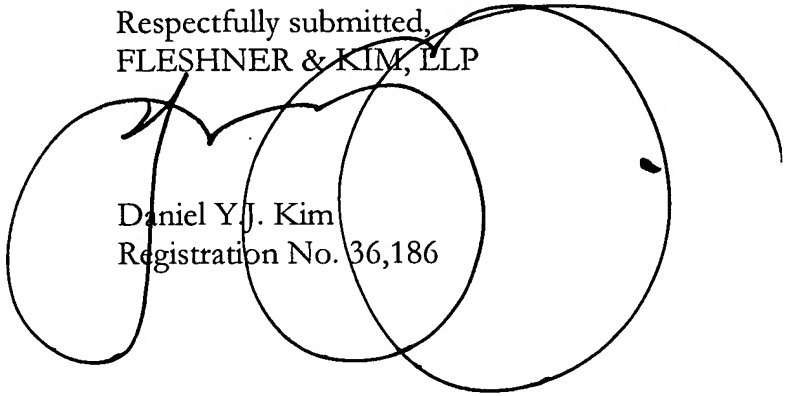
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concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and
please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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